THE SPEECH AND DECLARATION OF John James,

A Weaver, in the Press-yard, At Newgate, on Sunday last, to the Fifth-Monarchy-Men, and others;

Concerning

His Sermon preached at a private Meeting in *White-Chappel*, taking his Text out of the *Psalms* of *David*, whose words are here inserted.

And

The manner of his Tryal before the Lord Chief Justice *Foster*, at the *Kings-Bench* in *Westminster* Hall; with the Sentence pronounced against him to be Drawn, Hanged, and Quartered, for preaching maliciously and traiterously against the life and safety of our Soveraign Lord the King, and against the Peace and Government of this Realm.

See No 5. Strange powers. &c.

LONDON,

Printed for *George Horton*, 1661.

SUPPLICATION

AND

DECLARATION

OF

John Jones,

LONDON,

Printed for George Horton, 1651.

The Speech and Declaration of John Iames in the Press-yard at Newgate, on Sunday last.

WHen the Christians in the primitive Times had their private meetings, the Church was hidden, and it was death for any to profess Christ openly; then Cellars, Garrets, and Woods, were their places of Assembly; but who reigned then, *Nero?* Blessed be the Name of God for ever more, we have the word preached amongst us faithfully, we need not go into Corners and Holes to hear the Word of our blessed Lord and Saviour taught; it abounds, through the great hand of Providence, in a most miraculous way, to all Leige and Loyal Subjects, and the Conduit-pipes of Heaven we see apparently opened, from whence descends the Fountain of Living Water, God in his great mercy continue the powerful influence thereof: And if there be some (as I suppose too many) that have a design to soar high beyond their Capacities and undertakings, let them learn that good and Christian Lesson of the holy Apostles, *Submit your selves to the Higher powers*, &c. Blame me not therefore, I beseech you, though I urge this with tenderness to tender Consciences; for I ve-

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rily believe *Ananias* the Button-maker, *Flash* the Cobler, or any others of that fraternity, never did more injury to poor Souls then the deluding Foxes of this Age; as is too manifest in these dayes, by the delusion of a Generation of men, whom I dare not call Loyal Subjects; witness the actions of a people that walk and go under the name of Fifth-monarchy men, whose principles to Monarchy are both dangerous and pernicious, as appears by their results at their meeting places; touching which, in reference to the following Discourse, the Reader may be pleased to take notice, that in one of their private Conventicles at White-Chappel, on Saturday October 19, 1661. *John James* a pretended Preacher to that Society, a Silk Weaver by Trade [mind that] took his Text out of the 8th. Psalm and second verse; the words these, *Out of the mouths of Babes and Sucklings hast thou ordained strength, because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.* From whence he raised several Doctrines, which alluded to Seditions and Rebellions, as appeared by the testimony of some witnesses, who being then present, departed the place, and acquainted the next Justice of Peace with it; upon which information, the said Justice sent for some Officers, and immediately came to the place where this Convinticle was, where they found the afore-named *John James* in the full heighth of his Seditious exercise; and making their approach near him, they commanded him to come down he boldly answered, he would not, unless they pulled him down; whereupon an Officer took hold of his Coat, forcing him to decline his station; and was thereupon carried before the Right Worshipful

Sir

Sir *John* Robinſon Lieutenant of the Tower of *London*, where was laid to his charge many traiterous expreſſions, uttered in his private Conventicle againſt the preſent Power and Government; for which, the Lieutenant told him, *he would ſtretch for it:* And in order thereunto his Mittimus was made to be ſent to Newgate, where he remained till the 19th of this inſtant Novem. being Wedneſday, from whence he was carried to the Kings Bar in Weſtminſter Hall, and there arraigned *for preaching maliciouſly and traiterouſly againſt the life and ſafety of our Soveraign Lord the King, and againſt the peace and Government of the whole* Realm, &c. But this is obſervable, that upon his coming to the Bar, and being commanded *to hold up his hand, according to the ancient Law of* England, he yielded obedience thereunto, but with his Glove on, which the Court perceiving, he was *commanded to pull it off*, ſaying, *That he held up his hand as a teſtimony, that he was there preſent, to anſwer what that Honourable Court had to lay to his charge*, &c. But to evade circumſtances:

The Charge of High Treaſon being read, wherein he was accuſed, to Act, Plot, and Conſpire, againſt His Royal Majeſties Sacred perſon, to be inſtrumental of levying a New War, and that he ſhould ſay, That if ever they could get the Power into their own hands (which God forbid) that they would caſt of all Monarchy, and perfect the work formerly began throughly.

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This and much more was made apparent and attested by several Witnesses; amongst whom, Mr. *Tipler* a Tobacco-pipe maker, made Oath, That he heard the said *John James* publickly declare at his private Conventicle in *white-chapple*, That *the Cup of Iniquity was filled more fuller by the blood of the Saints at* Cherring-Cross *a twelve moneth last, and by the blood of the Saints in* Scotland, *to wit, the Covenanters, then it had in many years before, and that a sudden ruine and destruction would befal the Authors thereof.*

Thus did this sad Soul justifie those Bloody Murtherers, who for their horrid impieties were executed for their most notorious and wicked Treasons, and seemed to justifie himself, pleading innocency: But this, and much more being fully proved by several Witnesses, before the Lord Chief Justice *Foster*, and the rest of the Justices of that Court, he was brought in *Guilty of High Treason*, which he seemed very obstinately to evade; for when it was demanded by the Honourable Court, *Who he would be tried by*, He answered, *By the Lawes of God.* The Lord Chief Justice told him, *He must answer according to Law, otherwise he must be recorded for a Mute.* The Clerk then telling him, he must answer, *By God and his Countrey*, he desired to know what the meaning of that was; it was answered, *That by God was meant the Lawes of the Land, and by Country, twelve* Middlesex *men for his Jury, honest, and just, to deal impartially between the Kings most excellent Majesty and the Charge against the Prisoner at the Bar.* whereupon he replied, *that he was satisfied:* And the Jury going out, he desired them to be tender of spilling of Innocent blood; but finding the evidence of the Witness so clear

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and apparent, he was brought in *Guilty of High Treason*, and ſoon after received ſentence to be Drawn, Hanged, and Quartered. In order wherunto he was ſent back to *Newgate* where on Sunday morning laſt, divers of his Acquaintance came to ſee him in the *Preſs-yard*, condoling his ſad condition; but he ſeemed not at all to be daunted, declaring, *That what he ſpake in the meeting, the Spirit of the Lord was upon his heart to reveal it:* And being taxed in his Charge touching ſome particulars concerning that notorious Regicide and wicked Uſurper *Oliver Cromwel*, he ſaid, *That he was as much againſt his power, as he was againſt this preſent Government.*

The truth is, he fancied no decency in the Church, without order or form, and as much as in him lay, would have eclipſed the Glory thereof, and laid its ſplendor in the Duſt, which all the Reformed Churches in the Chriſtian World have formerly ſtood amazed at the Government thereof: The Lord in his mercy open the hearts of our Gracious Soveraign, Parliament, and Council, to reform theſe things both in Church and Kingdoms, that God may have his word ſetled in peace and quiet, and his people may come to his Temple with joy and gladneſs.

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